(a) the number of proposal for setting up of Agri-Export Zones pending with the Government at present, State-wise, particularly from Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the reasons for the delay in clearing the same; and

(c) by when the same is likely to be cleared, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) 34 proposals for setting up of new AEZs including 3 from Andhra Pradesh were received by the Government. On the basis of the findings of a peer evaluation of the existing AEZs, it was decided to have an embargo on creationof new AEZs unless there were strong and compelling reasons for the same. The State Governmemnts have been asked to reconsider their proposals in the light of this decision. Thus, no proposals for setting of new AEZ are under consideration of Government of India at present.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Consumption and export of iron-ore

2739. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:
SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the volume of export of iron-ore during the last five years;

(b) what are the future export commitments in this regard;

(c) what have been the per tonne net earnings over these exports;

(d) what are the total proven reserves of iron-ore in the country; and

(e) what have been the domestic consumption levels of iron-ore during the last three years and what are the future projections?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The total volume of export of iron ore by all sources during the last five years is as follows:-

(Qty. Million Tonnes)

	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06 (Provisional)
Quantity exported	41.64	48.02	62.58	78.15	89.27

(b) MMTC has so far entered into new Long Term Agreements for export of iron ore with the Japanese Steel Mills (JSMs) and POSCO, South Korea for a period of five years commencing from 1.4.2006 for a total quantity ranging from 4.27 million MT to 8.35 million MT per annum.

Long Term Agreements have also been firmed up with three Chinese Steel Mills *w.e.f.* 1.4.2006 for five years for a total quantity ranging from 2.50 million MT to 3.10 million MT per annum. Details regarding future export commitments by private sector exporters are not known to the Government.

(c) The per tonne earnings by MMTC over the exports during the last five years is as follows:-

(Total Value: Rs. Crores; Tonnage Quantity in Million Tonnes)

Year	Total Value	Tonnage	Derived Earnings per tonne
2001-02	3321.83	41.64	Rs. 498
2002-03	3655.15	48.02	RS. 461
2003-04	7042.08	62.58	Rs. 1125
2004-05	13650.46	78.15	Rs. 1747
2005-06 (Prov.)	17375.00	89.27	Rs. 1946

(d) The total proven reserves of iron ore in the country as on 1.4.2000 are as follows:-

(Qty. Million Tonnes)

Haematite	4422
Magnetite	230

(Source: Indian Mineral Yearbook 2005 of IBM, Nagpur)

(e) According to the Ministry of Steel, the domestic consumption of iron ore during the last three years is as follows:-

(Quantity in million tonnes)

Year	Domestic Consumption
2003-04	51.62
2004-05 (Prov.)	54.00
2005-06 (Prov.)	58.00

As per the National Steel Policy, by 2019-20, India's projected steel production is 110 million tonnes for which domestic iron ore requirement would be 190 million tonnes per annum.

Registered units in EOUs and SEZs

2740. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have organized open house meetings for EOUs and SEZs units, which are registered, under the auspices of Export Promotion Councils;

(b) how many such EOUs and SEZ units are actually registered with appropirate aunthorities of Government;

(c) of these how many are actually working;

(d) whether it is fact that many units are only operating to avail the fiscal benefits;

(e) the steps proposed to de-register such units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAI RAM RAMESH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) As on 31.3.2006, about 8600 Export Oriented Units (EOUs) and 3670 Special Economic Zone, (SEZ) units were registered in the respective schemes and out of which about 2040 EOUs and 950 SEz units were functional.

(d) and (e) As per policy, EOUs and SEZ units are eligible for various incentives like duty free import/procurement of captial goods, raw